

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in view of the decision by the Board of Appeals, dated August 18, 2009. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the final Office Action of June 15, 2006, as modified by the decision of August 18, is respectfully requested.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that dependent claims 36-39 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if amended to be placed into independent form including all of the subject matter of base independent claim 27 and any intervening claims. In addition, the Examiner indicated that claims 51 and 52 were allowed. Furthermore, in the decision by the Board of Appeals, the Examiner's formal rejection of dependent claim 35 was reversed by the Board, and there were no prior art rejections of claim 35.

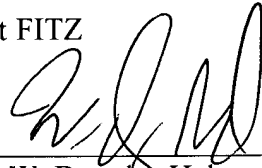
In view of the above, dependent claim 35 has now been amended so as to be placed into independent form including all of the subject matter of base independent claim 27 and intervening claims 33 and 34. In addition, dependent claim 36 has been amended so as to be placed into independent form including all of the subject matter of base independent claim 27 and intervening claim 33. Furthermore, rejected claims 27-34 and 40-50 have been cancelled. Therefore, in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding final Office Action, as well as the Board's reversal of the Examiner's rejection of claim 35 on formal grounds, it is submitted that amended claims 35-39 and claims 51 and 52 are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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